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TS 155064

Copy / of 5

25 April 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR: Project Director

SUBJECT: Operational Procedures Review

1. As directed, the following aspects of operations were reviewed. The attached memorandum is a summary of that review.

a. Launching two aircraft simultaneously.

b.

c. Mission coordination with Headquarters USAF and SAC.

2. On 23 April, two personnel of this office attended a briefing presented by the Reconnaissance Office of DCS/O Hqs USAF. The purpose of the visit was to:

a. Receive briefing on current Hqs USAF reconnaissance activities.

b.

c. Review the SAC U-2 EWP (Emergency War Plan).

d. Discuss future mission planning coordination procedures.

Tentative arrangements have been made for more personnel of Project Operations to repeat the above. The results of these meetings will be forwarded at a later date. At the same time, it is planned to forward a coordinated Hqs USAF-SAC-Project SOP as pertains to mission planning. As stated in the attached memorandum, every effort will continue to be made to use the latest information as well as the most experienced personnel available in all mission planning.

3. For your information, the "Joint Mission Coverage Summary" for  shows that coverage was obtained on the following targets listed below. This represents 100% coverage of targets planned for and over which weather was forecast to be acceptable. In addition, coverage of previously unknown targets was much in excess of our expectations.

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Airfields	57
Electronic facilities	48
Industrial facilities	26
Liquid fuel facilities	23
Military installations	60
Missile facilities	4
Naval Installations	10
Ports and Harbours	10
Storage facilities-general	44
Transportation (new rail- roads, bridges, tunnels)	78
Urban areas and complexes	14
Miscellaneous	33

4. As pertains to personnel now assigned to Project Operations, it is felt that they are the most experienced available for this or similar type reconnaissance programs within the government. To insure maintenance of the reputation for the success that Project CHALICE enviously enjoys, every effort should be made to retain personnel with the experience and team integrity which they represent. Experience with equipment capabilities and an understanding of mission requirements with the many and varied diplomatic and political ramifications which enter in, is a "must" for effective mission planning.

5. Since reliability of equipment is also a most important aspect of this type of operation, the same opinion applies to continuity within the Material Section of Headquarters, particularly maintenance. It is felt essential that greater attention to quality control of maintenance is necessary as aircraft become older. In addition, there is the possibility that our current high standards could be relaxed due to over-familiarity and the somewhat reduced pressure.

6. The simultaneous loss of Col. Gibbs and [redacted] is not consistent with the above opinion. Sortie rate and the ability of Materiel to support a realistic figure requires close coordination between the two sections, and the decision should be based on the knowledge of a maintenance man with a thorough knowledge of the aircraft. To fill the void of the loss of [redacted] it is recommended that [redacted] spend approximately two weeks at Edwards in order that he become thoroughly familiar with engine and airframe maintenance.

[redacted]  
Director of Operations

Att: TS 155064  
1 - Proj Dir  
2 - Dep Proj Dir

3 - Dps subj 4 - Ops chron 5 - RI

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